

**FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD
WORK SESSION
October 26, 2005
Olympia, WA**

Board Members Present: Jim Broman, Joe Coulتمان, Mark Kahley, Jennifer Gregerson, Sharon Colby, TJ Nedrow, Wayne Wienholz, and Dean Hosni

Board Members Absent: Buck Lane

WSP Staff Present: Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick, Chuck King, and Ellen Tombleson, WSP Deputy Chief Paul Beckley

Guests Present: Tim Nogler, Mike Brown and Kim Tanaka

OPENING

Sharon opened the meeting at approximately 9:00. Following introductions, Sharon welcomed Wayne Wienholz as a new member to the Fire Protection Policy Board, representing the Washington State Association of Fire Marshals, and thanked Deputy Chief Paul Beckley for his attendance.

Chief Beckley provided an update on the process for filling the State Fire Marshal position. He shared that Chief Batiste is not interested in making an imminent appointment, but instead plans to take time to review stakeholder input and to do a through review of the Fire Protection Bureau to ensure that the next SFM is successful and to gain a clear understanding of what the fire service would like to see at the State Fire Marshal's Office. Chief Batiste reaffirmed Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick's philosophy of continuing to move the FPB programs forward and to stabilize the office in the interim.

Chief Beckley advised that he and Chief Batiste are excited on the progress of the Fire Training Academy's Business Plan and the work of the Fire Protection Policy Board's Fire Investigation Study Group.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Tim Nogler, Managing Director of the State Building Code Council (SBCC) provided an overview of information relating to the rule change requiring sprinklers in nightclubs. He also reviewed the timeline that directs the SBCC to adopt rules by December 1, 2005, requiring that all nightclubs be provided with an automatic sprinkler system; and the SBCC to forward copies of the rules as adopted to the Fire Protection Policy Board by December 15, 2005. In discussion regarding the timeline for adoption and implementation, and the requirement that the SBCC immediately consider changes recommended by the Fire Protection Policy Board, it was agreed that the FPPB will review the final proposed language, discuss the issue with their constituent groups and be prepared to take formal action at their Regular Meeting, scheduled for November 30.

Tim advised that the minutes from the SBCC meeting held on October 14, 2005, with the testimony from the hearing are available on the SBCC website (www.sbccc.wa.gov), and can be accessed by selecting "Meeting Information" and clicking on Agenda and Minutes for 10/14/05.

Chuck King provided an overview of the information items relating to:

- Re-Accreditation of the National Association of Professional Driving (NAPD). NAPD originally submitted their Fire Apparatus Operation driver training program to the Fire Protection Bureau for accreditation in 2000. This program is used to train firefighters on the Emergency Vehicle Accident Prevention (EVAP) standard so that firefighters do not have to maintain a Commercial Driver's License.
- Re-Accreditation of the Seattle Fire Department's (SFD) NFPA 1001 Firefighter I program. Chuck advised that in January 2005, a site visit was conducted for the purpose of re-accreditation of the SFD's NFPA 1001 Firefighter I program. The team reviewed the policies and procedures of the SFD in accordance with the criteria in the Washington State Accreditation Guideline and observed a mock written exam and practical exam on Firefighter I.

Chuck advised that both of these will be brought forth as a Decision Item to the Policy Board at their November 30 Regular Meeting.

- Reduction of Modules in the Basic Firefighter Training Program. Discussion was held relating to the fund balance, spending authority and encumbrances for the program. Mike Matlick advised that he will contact Bob Maki, WSP Budget Manager and request an analysis of this fund at the November 30 meeting. It was agreed that a decision for this issue be put on hold until February, 2006.

Following Chuck's presentation of Information Items, Jim Broman provided an overview of the Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial, and praised the work of Chuck and the staff who assisted him in coordinating this years' Memorial. Jim felt that the event was a huge success, and greatly attributed to their efforts. It was also noted that securing the attendance of the Governor and her husband was a milestone. Kim Tanaka, Governor's Office staff, expressed that Governor Gregoire and the First Gentlemen, Mike Gregoire, were impressed with the event, and advised that their attendance speaks volumes of their interest and commitment to firefighters, and firefighting issues.

STATE FIRE MARSHAL UPDATE

Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick provided an overview of the ***Fire Training Academy Business Plan*** and advised that the plan is being presented at various fire service meetings and events, and is being well received. He further advised that he plans on forwarding the plan to the legislature by December 1, 2005.

Sharon advised that she was a little disappointed by the lack of interest that was shown at the Fire Commissioners Conference in Spokane. She feels that some of the smaller, rural districts may be more interested in outreach activities, and feels that perhaps the title of the Plan may preclude their interest, as they may not be customers of the Fire Training Academy. She feels that it is important that when the Plan is presented that it is clarified that the Plan does not pertain just to the Fire Training Academy, but to the delivery of statewide fire service training as a whole. Jim Broman also advised that he feels it is the responsibility of the Fire Protection Policy Board members to generate interest within the associations they represent on the Board and to educate constituents to the fact that the Plan is not directed solely to the Fire Training Academy.

Mike Matlick advised that he would forward a copy of the Plan that goes to the Office of Financial Management to be published on the State Fire Marshal's Office website.

Acting State Fire Marshal Mike Matlick provided an overview of the Fire Protection Policy Board's Fire Investigation Study Group meeting that was held in Ellensburg on October 4, 2005. Mike feels this meeting was a success, and that it is anticipated that the next meeting, which is scheduled in Ellensburg on November 9, 2005, will result in a draft plan. Following discussion on statewide mutual aid agreements, Mike advised that he will continue to provide information on this subject as it becomes available.

Discussion was held regarding the original intent of this group, which as a short term charge was to:
Develop a strategy to properly authorize, fund from existing resources, and coordinate the deployment of existing out-of-jurisdiction resources to perform origin and cause fire investigations. (It was suggested that this could be modeled after the Washington State Fire Service Mobilization Plan)

The long term charge was to develop a plan that will:

- A. Describe the value of and the need for a comprehensive statewide code enforcement and fire/criminal investigation program; and
- B. Propose a statewide prevention plan, including potential legislation, funding, training, delivery, and accountability.

In specific discussion on the direction the Work Group should take after the fire investigation issues have been addressed, that the code enforcement and prevention efforts should be addressed as a long term project, in order to facilitate the gathering of stakeholder input. It was also agreed that although some of the members on the Fire Investigation Study Group could also be members of the Code Enforcement and Prevention Study that perhaps a separate committee, specific to these issues would need to be formed.

Mike Matlick also provided an overview of a meeting that is being held in Steheiken to address fire protection in an area deemed as "no man's land" and advised that he would forward any pertinent information as a result of that meeting to the Fire Protection Policy Board.

Mike also advised that a Fireworks Task Force has been formed, with the intention that the Task Force will study issues relating to fireworks enforcement, formulate a plan to address these issues, and develop a report to address possible future legislative action. The issues include:

- Funding for local enforcement of the law;
- Identification of state legal fireworks vs. state illegal fireworks;
- Local adoption of modifications to the types, dates and times of legal possession and discharge of fireworks;
- Transportation and use of illegal tribal fireworks off reservation land;
- The percentage of fireworks licensing funds being directed to public education and enforcement activities;
- Dates for the allowable use of fireworks, and
- Conflicts with the statute.

The first meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for 9:30 am - 12:00 pm, on November 22, 2005, in the Auditorium of the General Administration Building, located at 210 11th Avenue Southwest in Olympia, Washington.

Wayne advised that based on approval from his office, he would be the Fire Protection Policy Board's representative on the Fireworks Enforcement Task Force.

Mike provided a second draft from the Fire Protection Policy Board's Training Committee, which is patterned after the Fire Protection Policy Board's Master Plan. Mike advised that the Training Committee would like the Board to review the draft to ensure that the direction the Training Committee is moving towards is in step with the Master Plan. Mike asked that any comments be directed to Chuck King.

BOARD REPRESENTATION

In review of Board representation of committees, Sharon clarified that along with she and Jim, that Joe is also a representative on the Forum. She advised Joe that the next Forum meeting is November 29, 2005, beginning at 9:00 at the Washington Fire Commissioner's Association conference room.

PRESENTATIONS

Jim Broman provided an overview of the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and advised that the mission of the SIEC is to promote statewide interoperability policies and standards, which will ensure interoperable emergency communications. More information on the SIEC and their activities can be accessed through the Information Services Board's website, www.isb.wa.gov.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Mark Kahley advised that the Department of Natural Resources is in the process of revising their Strategic Plan, which was developed in 1997 as a 10 Year Plan. They are now in the process of developing a new Strategic Plan that will look out 15 years at how the Fire Programs in DNR will change over the next 15 years. Mark advised that the DNR will be asking for input from their stakeholders, many of whom are represented on the Fire Protection Policy Board. Mark advised that there will be an Advisory Committee, who will be expected to nothing other than to review and comment on work products. Mark advised that they are mainly looking for input from the Fire Chiefs, Fire Commissioners and the State Fire Marshal's Office. Jim Broman advised that he forward a recommendation from the State Fire Chiefs Association, and Sharon advised that she would provide a recommendation from the Fire Commissioners Association. Mark advised that this project is looked at as being accomplished in 3 meetings, beginning in November, and being completed in April.

TJ Nedrow distributed information detailing the National Fire Service Responder Credentialing System, as developed by a committee of representatives from each of the major fire service groups assembled by the United States Fire Administration. The report that TJ distributed describes a system that identifies the individuals who are requested in a federally declared incident, thereby restricting access to the disaster site to those individuals who have not been officially dispatched and confirms the identity and qualifications of the individuals who respond in a federally declared incident.

TJ Nedrow requested that the Fire Protection Policy Board's web page be updated to reflect the new membership and to add the logo.

REVIEW

In discussion regarding the proposed meeting schedule for 2006, Sharon stressed the importance of meeting attendance, and asked that each Board member carefully review the proposed dates in an effort to mitigate any conflicts. The only conflict with the proposed meetings dates was May 24, 2006, where TJ advised that he will be out of state. Formal action to approve the 2006 meeting schedule will be taken at the November 30 regular meeting.

The Annual Event Schedule was reviewed and will continue to be monitored at each meeting.

The Pending List was reviewed. Ellen will make changes and continue to add items onto the list as requested or when appropriate, based on discussion at meetings and work sessions.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30.

NEXT MEETING

November 30, 2005

General Administration Building

WSP HQ Conference Room

Approved:

Sharon Colby, FPPB Chair

(Date)